

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF POWER**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1602
ANSWERED ON 13.02.2025**

PROBLEM OF INCREASING POWER CUTS

†1602. SHRI RAMASHANKAR RAJBHAR:

**Will the Minister of POWER
be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Government has taken any specific steps to deal with the problem of increasing power cuts in the country and if so, the details thereof;**
- (b) whether there is any new scheme implemented to improve the transmission and distribution system and if so, the details thereof;**
- (c) the measures taken to deal with the shortage of transformers and the repeated malfunctioning therein in the rural areas;**
- (d) whether there is any special scheme to ensure uninterrupted power supply to every village and household and if so, the details thereof;**
- (e) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to fill the vacant posts and to create new opportunities of employment in the electricity department;**
- (f) whether there is any scheme to provide training to the youths therein and if so, the details thereof;**
- (g) the steps taken by the Government to bring a check on increase in electricity rates and problems regarding power billing; and**
- (h) whether the grievance redressal system has been strengthened for the consumers and if so, the details thereof?**

A N S W E R

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER

(SHRI SHRIPAD NAIK)

(a) to (d) : Electricity being a concurrent subject, supply and distribution of electricity to the consumers is within the purview of the respective State Government/Power Utility. Government of India has been supporting the States/ UTs through schemes like Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Gram Jyoti Yojana (DDUGJY), Integrated Power Development Scheme (IPDS), Pradhan Mantri Sahaj Bijli Har Ghar Yojana (SAUBHAGYA) to improve access and quality of power supply to all consumers. These schemes stand closed as on 31.03.2022. Under these schemes, projects worth Rs. 1.85 lakh Cr. were executed for strengthening of power distribution infrastructure.

Government of India, in July 2021, launched the Revamped Distribution Sector Scheme (RDSS) with the objective of improving the quality and reliability of power supply to consumers through a financially sustainable and operationally efficient Distribution Sector in the country. The scheme aims to reduce the Aggregate Technical and Commercial (AT&C) losses to pan-India levels of 12-15% and the Average Cost of Supply and Average Revenue Realized (ACS-ARR) Gap to zero.

Under the scheme, financial assistance is being provided to the Distribution Utilities eligible under scheme for upgradation of distribution infrastructure & smart metering works. Various works sanctioned under RDSS for improvement in power distribution network and strengthening of infrastructure for ensuring uninterrupted power supply across the country are as below:

- a. Installation of New/Upgradation of existing Distribution Transformers and sub-stations.**
- b. Feeder bifurcation and segregation works**
- c. Replacement of old bare conductors with Low Tension Aerial Bunched (LT AB) cables**
- d. Reconductoring of High Tension (HT) & Low Tension (LT) lines etc.**
- e. Modernization works including Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA), Data Management System (DMS), IT/OT, Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP), GIS enabled applications, Advanced Distribution Management Systems (ADMS) etc. to make to make distributions systems smarter.**

Projects worth Rs. 1.48 lakh crores for distribution infrastructure and Rs. 1.31 lakh crores for smart metering works have been sanctioned which would help to improve the reliability and quality of power supply in the country including the rural areas. State-wise details are attached at Annexure-I.

Further, Government of India is supporting electrification of all households left out during SAUBHAGYA period under the scheme of Revamped Distribution Sector Scheme (RDSS). Survey has been carried out by distribution utilities to identify un-electrified households. Grid based electrification works have been sanctioned under RDSS wherever found feasible. Till date, works amounting to Rs. 4,538 Cr. have been sanctioned for grid electrification of 9,97,680 households. This includes grid electrification of households left-out during SAUBHAGYA, households belonging to Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Group (PVTG) identified under PM-JANMAN (Pradhan Mantri Janjati Adivasi Nyaya Maha Abhiyan) and tribal households as well as public places identified under DA-JGUA (Dharti Aaba Janjatiya Gram Utkarsh Abhiyan). The State wise details are enclosed as Annexure-II.

(e) : Administration of State electricity departments including filling of vacant posts is under the purview of the respective State / UT Governments.

(f) : Under RDSS, 10,850 nos. of employees of State Government DISCOMs have been provided training so far (Annexure-IV).

(g) : Smart Metering at the consumer, distribution transformer and feeder level along with communication features and Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) supports Distribution Utilities in improving their financial viability through benefits such as improvement in billing and collection efficiency, automatic energy measurement, accounting, auditing, improved load forecasting, optimize power purchase costs and renewable energy integration through net metering. Thus, the installation of smart meters would help distribution utilities reduce their losses. The reduction in losses and improved power purchase optimization would help in reducing the cost of power.

Further, implementation of Prepaid Smart metering will provide the following benefits to the consumers:

- a. Error free billing**
- b. Convenience of recharge with small recharges**
- c. Emergency credit in meter to avoid disconnection on zero balance**
- d. Tracking of consumption**
- e. Rebate in bill**

Under this scheme, projects worth Rs 1.31 lakh crore have been sanctioned under RDSS for Smart metering works. State-wise details of smart metering works sanctioned for 28 States is given at Annexure-III.

(h) : Ministry of Power has issued the Electricity (Rights of Consumers) Rules, 2020 to strengthen the Consumer Grievance Redressal System. The Rules stipulate establishment of Consumer Grievance Redressal Forums (CGRFs) at different levels. The forum shall consist of officers of the Distribution licensee and have not more than four members as consumer and prosumer representatives. The State Commission shall nominate one independent member who is familiar with the consumer affairs. The Distribution licensee shall specify the time within which various types of grievances by the different levels of the forums are to be resolved.

The Rule also provides for appointment of an Ombudsman by the State Commission for redressing the appeals.

ANNEXURE REFERRED IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1602 ANSWERED IN THE LOK SABHA ON 13.02.2025

State-wise cost of projects sanctioned under RDSS

States/Discoms	Sanctioned cost of metering (including PMA) (Rs. Cr.)	Sanctioned LR cost including PMA (Rs. Cr.)	Sanctioned total Outlay (Rs. Cr.)	Sanctioned GBS of Metering Works (including PMA) (Rs. Cr.)	Sanctioned GBS of Infrastructure (Loss Reduction) Works (including PMA) (Rs. Cr.)	Sanctioned GBS with incentives with PMA (Infra +Metering) in Rs Cr.
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	54	462	516	12	416	428
Andhra Pradesh	4,128	10,687	14,814	815	6,412	7,227
Arunachal Pradesh	184	1,042	1,226	54	938	992
Assam	4,050	3,395	7,444	1,052	3,055	4,107
Bihar	2,021	8,406	10,427	412	5,044	5,456
Chhattisgarh	4,105	3,964	8,070	804	2,379	3,183
Delhi	13	324	337	2	194	196
Goa	469	247	716	95	148	243
Gujarat	10,642	6,089	16,731	1,885	3,653	5,538
Haryana	0	6,797	6,797	0	4,078	4,078
Himachal Pradesh	1,788	2,327	4,115	466	2,094	2,560
Jammu & Kashmir	1,064	4,771	5,835	272	4,294	4,566
Jharkhand	858	3,344	4,202	191	2,006	2,197
Karnataka	0	34	34	0	21	21
Kerala	8,231	3,011	11,243	1,413	1,807	3,220
Ladakh	0	876	876	0	788	788
Madhya Pradesh	8,911	9,384	18,295	1,504	5,631	7,134
Maharashtra	15,215	17,209	32,424	2,840	10,326	13,165
Manipur	121	615	737	38	554	592
Meghalaya	310	1,232	1,542	86	1,109	1,195
Mizoram	182	319	500	61	287	348
Nagaland	208	461	668	60	415	474
Puducherry	251	84	335	56	51	107
Punjab	5,769	3,873	9,642	960	2,324	3,284
Rajasthan	9,715	17,427	27,142	1,686	10,456	12,142
Sikkim	97	416	514	30	375	405
Tamil Nadu	19,235	9,568	28,803	3,398	5,741	9,139
Telangana	0	120	120	0	72	72
Tripura	319	598	917	80	538	619
Uttar Pradesh	18,956	21,612	40,568	3,501	12,967	16,468
Uttarakhand	1,106	1,717	2,823	310	1,545	1,855
West Bengal	12,670	7,223	19,893	2,089	4,334	6,423
Grand Total	1,30,671	1,47,635	2,78,306	24,173	94,050	1,18,224

ANNEXURE REFERRED IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1602 ANSWERED IN THE LOK SABHA ON 13.02.2025

**Household Electrification sanctioned under RDSS
(PVTG+Addl HHs+ VVP)**

Sl. No.	Name of State	Sanctioned Outlay (Rs. Crores)	Sanctioned GBS (Rs. Crores)	Total Households Sanctioned (Nos.)
A.	Addl. HHs Sanctioned under RDSS			
1	Rajasthan	459.18	275.51	1,90,959
2	Meghalaya	435.70	392.13	50,501
3	Mizoram	79.90	71.91	15,167
4	Nagaland	69.55	62.59	10,004
5	Uttar Pradesh	931.04	558.62	2,51,487
6	Andhra Pradesh	49.24	29.55	15,475
7	Jharkhand	7.47	4.48	872
8	Jammu & Kashmir	77.10	69.39	10,730
9	Bihar	300.26	180.16	42,584
10	Assam	785.55	706.99	1,27,111
11	Arunachal Pradesh	47.11	42.40	6,506
12	Manipur	214.44	193.00	36,972
13	Chhattisgarh	316.51	189.90	63,161
	Total (A)	3,773.04	2,776.64	8,21,529
B.	Electrification works sanctioned under RDSS in Vibrant Villages			
1	Himachal Pradesh*	6.08	5.47	-
2	Arunachal Pradesh	20.18	18.16	1,683
3	Uttarakhand	13.08	11.77	1,154
	Total (B)	39.34	35.41	2,837
C.	Electrification of PVTG Households through Grid Connectivity under PM-JANMAN			
C1	Sanctioned under RDSS			
1	Andhra Pradesh	88.71	53.23	25,054
2	Bihar	0.28	0.17	51
3	Chhattisgarh	38.17	22.90	7,077
4	Jharkhand	74.13	44.47	12,442
5	Madhya Pradesh	143.39	86.02	29,290
6	Maharashtra	26.61	15.96	8,556
7	Rajasthan	40.34	24.20	17,633
8	Karnataka	3.77	2.26	1,615
9	Kerala	0.86	0.52	345
10	Tamil Nadu	29.89	17.94	10,673
11	Telangana	6.79	4.07	3,884
12	Tripura	61.52	55.37	11,664
13	Uttarakhand	0.60	0.54	669
14	Uttar Pradesh	1.10	0.66	316
	Sub Total (C1)	516.15	328.31	1,29,269
D.	Electrification of DA-JGUA			
D1	Sanctioned Households			
1	Chhattisgarh	11.98	7.19	2,550
2	Maharashtra	2.07	1.24	480
3	Tripura	40.69	36.62	7,677
4	Karnataka	30.53	18.32	3,682
5	Arunachal Pradesh	8.20	7.38	1,938
6	Telangana	110.73	66.44	26,525
	Sub Total (D1)	204.20	137.19	42,852
D2	Sanctioned Public Places			
1	Tripura	2.31	2.08	512
2	Arunachal Pradesh	0.04	0.03	9
3	Telangana	2.90	1.74	672
	Sub Total (D2)	5.25	3.86	1,193
	Total (D=D1+D2)	209.45	141.05	44,045
	Grand Total (A+B+C+D)	4,537.99	3,281.39	9,97,680

ANNEXURE-III

ANNEXURE REFERRED IN REPLY TO PART (g) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1602 ANSWERED IN THE LOK SABHA ON 13.02.2025

Smart Metering Works Sanctioned under RDSS

State	Consumer Meters (Nos.)	DT Meters (Nos.)	Feeder meters (Nos.)	Sanctioned cost of metering (including PMA) (Rs. Cr.)
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	83,573	1,148	114	53.56
Andhra Pradesh	56,08,846	2,93,140	17,358	4,127.85
Arunachal Pradesh	2,87,446	10,116	688	183.56
Assam	63,64,798	77,547	2,782	4,049.54
Bihar	23,50,000	2,50,726	6,427	2,021.21
Chattisgarh	59,62,115	2,10,644	6,720	4,105.31
Delhi	-	766	2,755	13.38
Goa	7,41,160	8,369	827	469.17
Gujarat	1,64,81,871	3,00,487	5,229	10,641.96
Haryana	-	-	-	-
Himachal Pradesh	28,00,945	39,012	1,951	1,788.49
Jammu & Kashmir	14,07,045	88,037	2,608	1,063.62
Jharkhand	13,41,306	19,512	1,226	858.02
Karnataka	-	-	-	-
Kerala	1,32,89,361	87,615	6,025	8,231.21
Ladakh	-	-	-	-
Madhya Pradesh	1,29,80,102	4,19,396	29,708	8,910.65
Maharashtra	2,35,64,747	4,10,905	29,214	15,214.95
Manipur	1,54,400	11,451	357	121.16
Meghalaya	4,60,000	11,419	1,324	309.56
Mizoram	2,89,383	2,300	398	181.61
Nagaland	3,17,210	6,276	392	207.57
Puducherry	4,03,767	3,105	180	251.10
Punjab	87,84,807	1,84,044	12,563	5,768.50
Rajasthan	1,42,74,956	4,34,608	27,128	9,714.80
Sikkim	1,44,680	3,229	633	97.45
Tamil Nadu	3,00,00,000	4,72,500	18,274	19,235.36
Telangana	-	-	-	-
Tripura	5,47,489	14,908	473	318.55
Uttar Pradesh	2,69,79,056	15,26,801	20,874	18,956.29
Uttarakhand	15,87,870	59,212	2,602	1,106.03
West Bengal	2,07,17,969	3,05,419	11,874	12,670.45
Grand Total	19,79,24,902	52,52,692	2,10,704	1,30,670.88

ANNEXURE-IV

**ANNEXURE REFERRED IN REPLY TO PART (f) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1602
ANSWERED IN THE LOK SABHA ON 13.02.2025**

Training Programmes Conducted under RDSS

Sl. No.	Name of the Training Program	No. of employees trained
1	Introduction of AMI and role of AMI in reducing AT&C losses	5,000
2	AMI system design and program management	1,996
3	IT/Comm. Technology in Smart metering	301
4	AMI data analytics and data applications	165
5	SCADA, IT/OT technologies and DMS & OMS System	527
6	Operational Safety and Disaster Management	2,211
7	Smart Metering and AT&C Loss Reduction	399
8	Techno commercial improvements of DISCOMs	173
9	Communication & Soft Skills	78
10	Total	10,850
